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Message Text

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45
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 IO-10 /095 W
---------- 043710
R 171109Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 681
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USCINCEUR
COMIDEASTFOR
DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 2681

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SU
SUBJECT: SPECIAL COURTS APPOINTED FOR SEPTEMBER 5 COUP ATTEMPT TRIALS

REF: KHARTOUM 2207, 2244 AND A-101

1. AS REPORTED FBIS LONDON 162305Z NOV 75, PRESIDENT NIMEIRI HAS APPOINTED AD HOC STATE SECURITY COURTS TO TRY 127 PERSONS ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ATTEMPT OF SEPT 5, WITH THE FIRST TRIAL NEXT WEEK IN ATBARA DEALING WITH THE IDENTIFIED RINGLEADERS. FOURTEEN OTHER ACCUSED ARE TO BE TRIED LATER, PRESUMABLY EITHER BY COURT MARTIAL OR BY A THIRD STATE SECURITY COURT YET TO BE FORMED.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, WE ARE TOLD (A) THAT A DELEGATION OF OFFICERS AND NCOS FROM WESTERN SUFIN RECENTLY CALLED ON
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NIMEIRI TO PROTEST PUBLICIZEDIIUSPICION OR AND PREJUDICE AGAINST

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WESTERNERS IN THE ARMED FORCES, AND (B) THAT BRIGADIER ANIS OMER ALI WAS ARRESTED LAST WEEK AT HOME ON CHARGES OF PLOTTING A NEW COUP ATTEMPT TO BE ENGINEERED BY ELEMENTS OF THE ARMORED CORPS. AS AN INFANTRY LT. COL. ANIS OMER ALI ATTENDED FORT LEAVENWORTH COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE IN 1964-65. FULL BIOGRAPHIC INFO AS OF 1967 AVAILABLE FROM DIA. NO SUB-SEQUENT INFORMATION IN OUR POSSESSION.

3. COMMENT: RUMOR HAS IT THAT COUP LEADER LT. COL HASSAN HUSSEIN OSMAN HAS REFUSED TO TALK BUT THAT LT. ABDEL RAHMAN SHAMBI TOLD ALL FOLLOWING CAPTURE ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO IN DARFUR, WHERE HE WAS ALLEGEDLY EN ROUTE TO LIBYA. OSMAN'S SILENCE PRESUMABLY DELAYED MATTERS UNTIL SHAMBI FURNISHED SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE FOR A "SUCCESSFUL" TRIAL. WE SUPPOSE FIRST TRIAL PLACED IN ATBARA, WHERE PRINCIPALS ALREADY IMPRISONED, MAINLY TO AVOID CROWDS AND ALL BUT CONTROLLED PRESS. RECENT LEGISLATION (REFTELS) GIVES NIMEIRI TOTAL CONTROL OVER TRIAL PROCEEDINGS, AND WE NOTE HE HAS BEGUN BY APPOINTING ONLY MILITARY AND POLICE OFFICERS TO COURTS (ALTHOUGH CIVILIANS FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE WILL PROSECUTE IN BOTH). FINALLY, NIMEIRI'S RECENT MEETING WITH WESTERN OFFICERS AND NCOS MAY WELL RESULT IN INSTRUCTION TO COURTS AND MEDIA TO SOFT-PEDAL INVOLVEMENT OF WESTERNERS PER SE.
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